**Native Culture in the New World**

I. The First Americans

A. When the Vikings came to North America around \_\_\_\_\_ AD and Columbus as well as the other explorers in the \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ centuries, there were already many thriving Indian cultures here.

B. The earliest known Indians are called the \_\_\_\_\_\_ Indians. Most paleontologist and archaeologists believe that these people were nomadic hunter-gatherers and probably came from Asia across the “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” into Alaska from Siberia approximately 14,000 years ago. It is believed that they followed animal herds into what is now North and South America.

C. These nomadic peoples left little evidence behind. The main clue is a very specific type of stone spear point known as a “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” point. Clovis points have been found all over America but in relatively small numbers. Anytime a point was made by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, flakes of material were left behind which are also found by archaeologists. (All Native Americans developed flint knapping techniques for stone tool making up until about the 17th century)

D. As the glaciers receded and the large animal herds died off, Native Americans became more sedentary and less nomadic.

1. As the groups stayed in areas longer, villages began to develop as did plant cultivation and the keeping of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. As they cultivated more plants, they needed better ways to store the food. The making and usage of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a major symbol of this time now known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

II. Various groups

A. Over thousands of years, various Indian groups began developing their own cultures. Much of their culture was based around the region of the country that they lived in. For instance, American Indians on the west coast focused much of their culture around fishing. The Plains Indians focused on following the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ herds. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who lived in New Mexico, Arizona and southern Colorado, focused on ways to cultivate plants in such arid land by developing clever ways to gather and store water.

B. On the East coast, the various tribes are known as “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” Indians. It was the Woodland Indians who first made contact with the English settlers at places like Jamestown. Some historians refer to this time period as the “contact” period in American History.

1. The Eastern Woodland tribes hunted, fished and farmed even using “\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_” techniques for clearing farm land. Tribes often formed into larger confederacies.

2. They lived in what are known as “\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_” constructed from saplings, sticks and bark. Evidence of these long houses are still discovered by archaeologists today.